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Interagency News Release

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Lightning Ignites New Fires in Grand Teton National Park

Moose, WY— Lightning ignited at least three new fires in the northern portion of the Grand Teton National Park on Sunday. Teton Interagency Dispatch began receiving smoke reports early Sunday afternoon, and firefighters quickly responded to three fires.

The Burned Ridge Fire, which burned approximately 1.5 acres on Burned Ridge located west of Potholes, was visible from several vantage points in the park. Resources from the Berry Fire responded, including two helicopters, a rappel crew and the Teton Interagency 20-person handcrew. The fire was burning actively and spotting into timber stands. Firefighters returned to the fire this morning to continue containment efforts.

The Lozier Hill Fire ignited on Lozier Hill, south of Emma Matilda Lake, in heavy downed logs from the 1998 Emma Matilda Fire. The 20-person Devil's Canyon Veteran Crew completed a saw line around the 1-acre fire Sunday night and resumed suppression efforts this morning.

“Both the Burned Ridge and Lozier fires are burning in areas in which we would like fire to play its natural role, but given the current high fire danger and limited available resources, we made the decision to suppress both fires,” said Grand Teton National Park Deputy Fire Management Officer Mack McFarland.

Engine 4 from Colter Bay responded to the Pilgrim Meadows Fire near Pilgrim Creek on Sunday as well, and quickly suppressed the tenth-acre fire. Due to its close proximity to US Highway 89/191/287 and Colter Bay, the fire was suppressed.

Sunday's storm brought heavy lightning and limited rainfall, so it is possible some holdover fires will become visible over the next few days with afternoon heating. To report a fire or smoke in Grand Teton National Park or Bridger-Teton National Forest, call the Teton Interagency Fire Dispatch Center at 307.739.3630.

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